

## Nga Maia o Aotearoa

## **Maori Midwives**

#### **CEO Report 2017**

#### Nga Mihi Kia Koutou

Kī mai ki ahau, he aha te mea nui o te Ao? Māku e kī atu, he tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata.

#### No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou tena koutou katoa

Ten years is a long time for most things. This year Turanga Kaupapa celebrated it's tenth year, and we have Henare and Tungane Kani to thank for keeping Turanga Kaupapa alive.

Last year we undertook a review of Turanga Kaupapa, following the review Henare, Crete, Nicole and I were invited to attend the Standard Review update training being held around the country for all standard reviewers. The purpose was to hear first hand from reviewers about their experience of Turanga Kaupapa. The major theme was that most midwives and reviewers wanted Turanga Kaupapa to align with the midwifery standards, and most wanted more opportunity to attend a workshop.

What has been achieved from these discussions, is a dedicated administrator, who can book midwives and standard reviewers through our Nga Maia Apt, onto a Turanga Kaupapa workshop. We have nine (9) trained facilitators covering the breadth of NZ. Participants can now look forward to having a 'workbook' which can be kept for ongoing learning, and for recording their own 'cultural journey'

The opening 'whakatauki' acknowledges how important people are, and that success achieved is when we all share in the mahi and vision and that we are successful when we have each other and are all working together. Having completed our Midwifery Council Application, we await our approval as a recognised accredited provider.

At this year's Nga Maia AGM, we will see the appointment of two new Board members as two existing trustees are replaced. I thank Herena Stone and Aroha Abrahams for giving of their time and efforts over the past three years. The year has continued to be full of wonderful mahi going on around New Zealand by dedicated Nga Maia members.

A month ago, I witnessed Raina Ferris deliver a stunning workshop on 'Ori Ori'

The birth place of mankind, 'Kura Waka' elegantly wrapped around the stories of Hine A Hu One, Hine Te Iwa Iwa and Hine Nui Te Po.

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This weekend I attended Tamaki Makaurau Student Midwifery Hui and sat transfixed as Naida Glavich described our Traditional Birthing Knowledge Mairanoa, followed by Maihana Durie who reinforced the need for More Maori Midwives to address our increasing Maori population. Leigh Henderson and Dr Hope Tupara shared their wisdom, both leaving us all wanting more.

We are at an exciting point in recognising Maori Women's important role in Maori society and the importance of having more Maori Midwives, especially in today's challenging times. As our Maori birth numbers increase, so do the challenges to prepare Maori Women adequately for birth and motherhood.

Turanga Kaupapa will give us all the confidence and skill to identify how we as midwives, can support Maori Women and whanau to achieve good birthing outcomes. I will be forever grateful to Henare Kani, for developing this wonderful tool for us all, I congratulate those who put their names forward to complete the 3-day training workshop and that all of you who are planning on attending, I look forward to seeing as many midwives as possible attend the Turanga Kaupapa workshops over the next 3 yrs.

Kia kaha

Kia manawanui

Na Jean Te Huia

CEO

Nga Maia Midwives

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